

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 100494
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /013 R

66011

DRAFTED BY EA/TIMBS:DPSULLIVAN
EA/TIMBS:REFRITTS

-----108187 201847Z /41

R 192044Z APR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 100494

STADIS//////////

FOL RPT MEDAN 0127 SENT ACTION SECSTATE DTD 18 APR 78

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEDAN 0127

STADIS

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SEND, ID, SNAMMXB, SD, SC

SUBJECT: SEALIFT MEDITERRANEAN GROUNDING

REF: JAKARTA 8075

1. CONSULATE REGRETS ITS OWN FAILURE TO NOTE OMISSION OF
DEPARTMENT ON MILITARY MESSAGES RE SHIP GROUNDING.

2. WE HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH NUTS AND BOLTS OF VARIOUS
ASSIST ACTIVITIES FOR SHIP. FIRST WAS THE EFFORT TO EVACUATE
SHIP CAPTAIN WILLIAM E. COONAN WHO SUFFERED HEART ATTACK DURING
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GROUNDING, TO MEDAN. HE IS NOW OUT OF CRITICAL STAGE AND WILL
PROBABLY BE EVACUATED TO SINGAPORE ON APRIL 21. THE SHIPPING
AGENT HAS HANDLED NOTIFICATION OF FAMILY. WE HAVE ALSO HANDLED
VISA PROBLEMS WITH INDONESIAN AUTHORITIES AT WWBANG ISLAND,
THE CLOSEST INDONESIAN POINT TO SHIP, AS WELL AS FLIGHT
CLEARANCE DELCDRROBLEMS FOR A CHARTER AIRCRAFT FROM SINGAPORE
FOR SURVEYING OIL SPILLS.

3. THE INVESTIGATION TEAM WENT TO THE SHIP LAST WEEK FROM PENANG, MALAYSIA AND IT IS NOW BACK IN SINGAPORE. IN A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION APRIL 17, CDR. MORINO OF THE TEAM, TOLD CONSULATE THAT SELCO COMPANY OF SINGAPORE IS DOING EXCELLENT JOB IN HANDLING SHIP RESCUE AND SHIP SHOULD BE TOWED INTO SINGAPORE AROUND APRIL 24. CDR. MORIN IS ARRIVING MEDAN APRIL 18 TO OBTAIN AN INFORMAL STATEMENT ABOUT THE FACTS OF THE GROUNDING FROM CAPTAIN COONAN WHO HAS AGREED TO GIVE IT.

4. CHARTER PLANE PILOT WHO DISCOVERED OIL SPILLS LAST WEEK REPORTED 11 SPILLS, ALL OF THEM MOVING AWAY FROM COAST OF SUMATRA. HE RETURNED APRIL 16 TO DO FURTHER AIR SURVEY BUT CONSULATE HAS NOT HEARD RESULTS. CDR. MORIN HAS CONFIRMED THAT SPILLS SEILL MOVING NORTHWARD AND ADDED MOST ARE IN CATEGORY OF SHEEN NOW RATHER THAN SLICK EVIDENTLY AS RESULT CLEANUP MEASURES BY AELCO.

5. CONSULATE HAS HAD NO OFFICIAL OR PRESS ENQUIRIES ABOUT SHIP OR ITS GROUNDING.

6. REQUEST DEPARTMENT REPEAT THIS MESSAGE TO THE AMEMBASSY JAKARTA, AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE, AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI. ISOM UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WATER POLLUTION, OIL SPILLS, SHIP ACCIDENTS, SEALIFT MEDITERRANEAN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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ISecure: 1
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TAGS: SENV, EWWT, ID, XD, SC
To: JAKARTA SINGAPORE MULTIPLE
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